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**(Courtesy of the PSSA and the SGA)**

# **Student Voter's Guide**

## **To the May 21<sup>st</sup> State/Congressional Primary**



### ***Political Science Student Association***

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Supporting Organization:

**The UNG American Democracy Project**

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This voter’s guide is designed to assist University of North Georgia students in the May 21<sup>st</sup> presidential primary vote. The guide contains information on the Democratic and Republican nominees for US House and GA State legislature.

This guide is a unique benefit to UNG students as the questions reprinted here were gathered from our students. In the spring of 2024, the PSSA surveyed UNG students regarding the issues about which they are most concerned. This guide presents candidate information for the four top issues.

We’ve done our best to provide as much information as possible given both space limitations and information availability. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Every effort was made to accurately represent candidate positions. Please note: because of space limitations, only contested party primaries (where more than one candidate is seeking their party’s nomination for a particular office) are included.

Print versions of this guide and other primary information material were produced by UPS of Dahlonega, GA using funding from the SGA. The PSSA thanks both for their efforts. We are also very grateful for the ongoing support of the **UNG American Democracy Project**.

## **An important note about REGISTRATION:**

**To vote in the May 21<sup>st</sup> primary, you must have been registered by April 22<sup>nd</sup>.** If you were not registered by then, you may not vote in this primary. However, you may *always* register for future elections. You can register online here:

<https://registertovote.sos.ga.gov/>

To check your registration status, or for ballot and polling place information, see:

<https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, all information is from candidate web sites. Editing was kept to a minimum, and every effort was made to preserve the candidates’ intent.

**See our Facebook page (and like us!) for updated election information:**

<https://www.facebook.com/UNGPSSA>

### **Legend:**

\* = Incumbent

# United States House of Representatives

Because of space limitations, only *contested* primaries are included.

## District #2

### Republicans

A. WAYNE JOHNSON – BUSINESSMAN, [wayne@johnsoncongress.com](mailto:wayne@johnsoncongress.com)

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

CHUCK HAND – CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT, [HTTPS://CHUCKHANDFORGEORGIA.COM](https://chuckhandforgeorgia.com)

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Prioritize American interests by fostering energy independence and securing our border.

MICHAEL NIXON – PURCHASING DIRECTOR, [michael@nixonforga.com](mailto:michael@nixonforga.com)

- **Inflation:** Prioritize fiscal responsibility. It's time to reduce our national debt and rein in government spending. By eliminating waste, promoting efficiency, and demanding accountability, we can ensure that our hard-earned tax dollars are used wisely and effectively. Cut the fat. We are tired of special interest groups buying career politicians, who then turn around and give billions of our tax dollars to their buddies on wall street. We need accountability in our government and I will work to ensure every tax dollar is spent strategically and efficiently.
- **Immigration:** Funding our military so that they can protect America and put our interests first. Securing our border with Mexico, supporting legal immigration while keeping criminals and terrorists out. Developing a secure path to citizenship for hard working immigrants. Stopping the flow of dangerous drugs into our country. We must label the drug cartels as terrorist organizations to properly defend against the violence and fear they spread across our border.
- **Abortion Rights:** Always fight to protect your rights, including the second amendment. Cut the bloated federal government and stop the waste. Give power and authority back to the states; we don't need D.C. telling Georgians how to live their lives. Stop the federal government from infringing on our rights and liberties. Make sure Federal law enforcement is for justice, and not politics.

REGINA (REGGIE) LIPAROTO – SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, **no contact information**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

## District #3

### Republicans

BRIAN JACK – POLITICAL ADVISOR, [WWW.BRIANJACK.COM](http://www.brianjack.com)

- **Inflation:** Worked by "President Trump's side to Stop Illegal Immigration, Pass Historic Tax Cuts, Confirm Conservative Judges, and Eliminate Needless Regulations." Wants to extend tax cuts and said, "I pledge to NEVER raise your taxes."
- **Immigration:** Wants to finish building the wall across the U.S.-Mexico border. Said "Democrats and the radical left roll out the red carpet for unvetted illegal immigrants while putting American citizens - and our service members - last...We need an AMERICA FIRST agenda that serves the citizens of this nation, not others."
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

JIM BENNETT – RETIRED, **no contact information**

- **Inflation:** Our debt and deficit is unsustainable. This isn't the normal Republican Party mantra of wanting to lower taxes, this is nation destroying deficits and debt limits that cannot be maintained as they will continue to increase interest rates and inflation. A debt ceiling increase is a tax. It is taxation through inflation. The Federal government gets paid up front and then We The People have to pay the bill through inflation.
- **Immigration:** The border must be closed. The border is not only a humanitarian crisis and a magnet for evil, it is the lynchpin in the plan of the Globalists to destroy the Rule of Law in the USA. When lawless ness is ignored, you get Antifa, BLM, and the son of a Vice-President/President selling influence to the highest bidder. When law enforcement, Attorneys General and District attorneys choose how laws are prosecuted based on politics, again, you are looking beyond a single act, you are looking at a coordinated attack on the sovereignty of the nation itself. Rule of Law supports our civil liberties. Selective prosecution takes them away.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

Michael Dugan – RETIRED MILITARY, **no contact information**

- **Inflation:** Joe Biden's economy has left working families in Georgia's 3rd District, and across the country, behind. People are paying more to fill up their car, put food on their table, and make ends meet. "Bidenomics" is a disease, and Georgia common sense is the prescription. I'll work to combat inflation, restore our energy independence, secure our supply chains, and create agricultural and technological self-sufficiency.
- **Immigration:** Border security is national security. If our border isn't secure, then American lives and national security are at risk. Drug cartels are getting richer, fentanyl is invading our communities, and every month seems to set a new record for illegal border crossings. It's a direct result of President Biden's policies. I went to the border and saw this crisis firsthand. In Congress, I'll be part of a solution that secures our border, enforces our laws, and puts America's security first.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

MIKE CRANE – GENERAL CONTRACTOR, [HTTPS://CRANEFORCONGRESS.COM](https://craneforcongress.com)

- **Inflation:** Rebuilding our economy means putting an end to spiraling debt, the establishment of sound monetary policy, and the elimination of bureaucratic creep into every business sector. It means future security for our families who should be able to confidently save and invest for the future without fear of inflation brought by bad government policies. It means the American dream of financial independence is reachable for all.
- **Immigration:** Our clearest identity as a nation is our borders. We must immediately regain full operational control of our borders and control ALL access through our borders. We must implement a comprehensive immigration plan that benefits America First and into the future. Period.
- **Abortion Rights:** Pro-life: Tracey and Mike have been blessed with a beautiful family. It has been their greatest treasure in life to see their children grow and develop into themselves, and they serve as a daily reminder that every day on Earth is a gift from God. However, when we abort more than 3,200 children per day, we recognize those children will never have birthday parties or graduate high school. Mike is proudly pro-life and in the State Senate successfully led the fight to end taxpayer funding of abortion. Mike will defend the sanctity of life at every turn.

PHILIP SINGLETON – CHIEF OF STAFF, [WWW.SINGLETONFORCONGRESS.COM](http://www.singletonforcongress.com)

- **Inflation:** American families are struggling to put food on the table, and Washington is to blame. We must stop the ridiculous spending, end the debt crisis, and slash the regulations that are driving up costs on consumers. It's time to bury the Green New Deal and pursue an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that ensures energy independence and dramatically lowers costs on hardworking families.
- **Immigration:** The border invasion undermines national security, public safety, and our sovereignty. We must lock down the border, finish building President Trump's border wall, and support public safety officials as they enforce the rule of law.

- **Abortion Rights:** We are God’s craftsmanship, all uniquely created by the Creator of this universe. Thus, all life, at all stages, from conception to natural death, should be respected, valued, and protected.

#### Democrats

#### MAURA KELLER – NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST, [HTTPS://GETMOREWITHMAURA.COM](https://getmorewithmaura.com)

- **Inflation:** We are a country that doesn’t take care of its people. The American Dream is supposed to come with a good quality of life; instead, it is dependent on our citizens working themselves to the bone. If the federal minimum wage had not increased in 2009, workers in Georgia would still be making \$5.05/hour. Although studies show a livable wage in Georgia should be at least \$17.00/hour, District 3’s previous representatives continually voted to keep their neighbors at or below the poverty line, with many making only \$7.25/hour. That means it has been 14 years without a pay increase and still our Republican leaning Congress will not do anything about it.
- **Immigration:** It’s no secret that our immigration system is broken and has been for a long time. Maura believes that properly reforming our immigration service is a process that benefits everyone. We can improve our border security and enforce our rules all while strengthening our economy and keeping families together. In recent years, we have seen young children separated from their parents and kept in cages, while politicians spread hate in the media. Let’s be clear: this is not immigration reform. If you’re ready for actual change that benefits our country, then Maura is the representative for you.
- **Abortion Rights:** For Maura, taking a stance on reproductive healthcare is easy: EVERYONE should have access to the care they need and have the right to make all decisions about their own body. The government should not come between Americans and their bodily autonomy; when Maura is sent to Congress, she will do everything in her power to both enshrine Roe v. Wade and expand on protections for women and birthing people across our nation.

#### VAL ALMONORD – RETIRED PHYSICIAN, [HTTPS://ALMONORDFORCONGRESS.COM](https://almonordforcongress.com)

- **Inflation:** My commitment to fostering a thriving economy extends beyond the 3rd Congressional District. I envision a Georgia where all residents can prosper in all 159 counties, not just the affluent ones. While Georgia is known as one of the top states for business, we must strive to make it one of the best places in the country to work, live, and retire. The key to achieving high-quality employment is by investing in small businesses and the essential assets that all companies require, such as a well-educated workforce and robust infrastructure within the 3rd Congressional District. Implementing policies that support workers, remove barriers to opportunity, and promote success for every family is the path to lifting up all Georgians. Upon assuming office in 2021, President Biden inherited an economy in turmoil, a worsening pandemic, declining employment, and a financial system teetering on the edge. Through collaboration with President Biden, Democrats successfully vaccinated all Americans, stabilized the financial system, averted a second Great Depression, and generated millions of new jobs. I will fight to guarantee that all Georgians could succeed and that all working families can enjoy economic security. We must work hard to extend relief to every Georgian so that no one is left behind. Republicans provided taxes cuts for the wealthy. In contrast, Democrats are fighting to provide relief for working families, help small businesses and homeowners, and strengthen consumer protections. Despite COVID-19’s effect on almost every industry in our economy, we must provide relief for hardworking Americans who’ve lost employment through no fault of their own. I will not be satisfied until every Georgian who wants to work can find quality employment. We will meet the challenges of this modern century by stimulating job creation, rebuilding our infrastructure, and investing in clean-energy technologies and small businesses.
- **Immigration:** As someone who legally immigrated to the United States in 1969, I believe our government must engage with undocumented individuals in a manner that reflects our values and respects human dignity. While we work on long-term solutions for our immigration system, we must immediately halt the inhumane treatment of individuals and families in the immigration process. If elected to Congress, I will strive to end unnecessary detention and close private detention facilities. We already possess practical tools for tracking and monitoring individuals. I will also propose legislation to authorize the president to negotiate with foreign countries to stem the flow of undocumented immigrants. Whether someone arrived in the United States two hundred years ago or two hundred days ago, one thing is certain: immigrants have been the cornerstone of American strength. Immigrants have bolstered American society while enriching our culture. As an immigrant who arrived in this country in 1969, immigration is deeply personal to me. That is why it is imperative to reform our immigration system in a manner that truly honors our history, reflects our values, and respects the individuals and families involved. If elected, I will advocate for reinstating, expanding, and streamlining protections for DACA and DAPA recipients, while also working towards a legislative pathway to citizenship for the millions of undocumented individuals already here.
- **Abortion Rights:** Women’s reproductive rights are essential to human rights, and upholding and protecting them is crucial. Denying women access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including contraception, abortion, and maternal healthcare, not only infringes on their bodily autonomy but also perpetuates gender inequality and restricts their ability to participate fully in society. It’s essential to advocate for policies and laws that safeguard women’s reproductive rights, as doing so promotes public health and ensures the well-being of individuals and communities. Let us work together to ensure that every woman has the right to make informed choices about her reproductive health without facing any stigma, discrimination, or barriers. Women’s reproductive rights are fundamental human rights that must be upheld and protected. Access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including contraception, abortion, and maternal healthcare, is essential for women to make autonomous decisions about their bodies, health, and futures. Denying women these rights not only violate their bodily autonomy but also perpetuates gender inequality and restricts their ability to participate fully in society. Upholding women’s reproductive rights is not only a matter of justice and equality but also essential for promoting public health and ensuring the well-being of individuals and communities. It’s crucial to advocate for policies and laws that safeguard women’s reproductive rights, allowing them to make choices about their reproductive health without stigma, discrimination, or barriers.

#### District #6

#### Democrats

#### JERICA RICHARDSON – COBB COUNTY COMMISSIONER, [HTTPS://JERICAFORCONGRESS.COM](https://jericaforcongress.com)

- **Inflation:** By redirecting the innovative spirit, we will continue to rise with fervor, to meet the complex challenges of the generation - Expanding access to healthcare, preserving our environment, smart investment in infrastructure & mobility, economic empowerment, and literacy.
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

#### LUCY MCBATH\* – CONGRESSWOMAN, [HTTPS://LUCYFORCONGRESS.COM](https://lucyforcongress.com)

- **Inflation:** Congresswoman McBath worked as a Delta flight attendant while raising her son in Metro Atlanta. She supports measures to strengthen the middle class, reducing taxes for hard-working Americans. She has fought to strengthen our small businesses, grow our local economy, and give our children the tools they need to thrive. She believes that we can build an economy that works for all Americans, where the billionaires pay their fair share, and where everyone has their very own shot at the American Dream.
- **Immigration:** Congresswoman McBath understands that our nation’s immigration system needs comprehensive reform. She believes we must work towards an immigration system built on basic dignity and respect for all people, and she is against policies that separate families. Congresswoman McBath supports a clean DREAM Act, and she plans to continue her work across the aisle to find comprehensive immigration solutions.
- **Abortion Rights:** As a two-time breast cancer survivor, Congresswoman McBath understands the importance of affordable and quality healthcare. As a mom who struggled to get pregnant, she opposed the G.O.P. plan to take away healthcare from thousands of Georgians by defunding Planned Parenthood. Whether it is cancer screening, contraceptives, or family planning services, our communities deserve access to services that keep them and their families healthy.

#### MANDISHA ANN-MARIE THOMAS – STATE REPRESENTATIVE, [HTTPS://MANDISHATHOMAS.COM](https://mandishathomas.com)

- **Inflation:** Lower Energy Cost: Exploring avenues to lower energy costs not only benefits households but also supports businesses and promotes economic growth. Revitalize American Manufacturing: Supporting initiatives to revitalize American manufacturing contributes to economic resilience and the creation of stable job markets. Livable Wage Housing: Implementing policies to address the affordability of housing is essential for ensuring that all residents have

access to safe and secure living spaces. Rebates and Tax Incentives: Providing rebates and tax incentives serves as a positive reinforcement for individuals and businesses to adopt sustainable practices.

- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

## District #8

### Democrats

**DARRIUS MAURICE BUTLER – PASTOR, [HTTPS://DARIUSBUTLER.COM](https://dariusbutler.com)**

- **Inflation:** Supports the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 but believes more can be done to help with inflation such as the Federal Reserve having interest rates that are comprehensible and doable.
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** "There is no reason we cannot put into federal law to cover all 50 states and US territories that women have the right to do with their bodies as they please. As a man, I cannot get pregnant, it is not my responsibility to tell you what you can or cannot do with your body."

**VINCE WATKINS – RETIRED EDITOR, [HTTPS://VINCEWATKINS.ORG](https://vincewatkins.org)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** The Democrats have been slow to come around on this one. It's easy to sit in Massachusetts and preach the virtue of sanctuary and immigration and open borders while letting the southern states deal with the problem. A few busloads of immigrants changed New York's tune. We have about 750 miles of wall, fence, or other physical barriers, to include the mammoth 87 miles of wall built during the Trump administration. Mexico still hasn't paid for it. But the border is 2,000 miles long. And if you show me a 10 foot wall, I'll show you a 12 foot ladder. The expense of useless walls that will need more maintenance than Mexico will pay for are an idiot's solution to a bigger problem. A huge percentage of immigrants simply fly into the US and just overstay their visas. Pro tip: Airplanes can fly over walls. The border can be enforced at ground level by technological means currently being tested and used without the need of a wall or fence. We also need to tighten our policies at border stations to include a complete revision of our asylum policies. Each year, our southern border allows in over 300 million people. The population of the US is 342 million. So obviously, there's a lot of back and forth we're dealing with, leaving our actual illegal immigrant population at an estimated 12 million. They don't typically qualify for government assistance and work under the table or at low paying jobs with false papers. Which means they are paying taxes and even into social security and will never see or benefit from that money. An estimated \$2 billion a year in Uncle Sugar's pocket. Illegal immigration costs money and we should continue to tighten our border, but we need to be ready for how expensive the solution will be. And the fact that Mexico is never going to cut us a check for it.
- **Abortion Rights:** When you grow a uterus, you can decide what to do with it. I believe women should have bodily autonomy. Period. The empowerment of women is the hallmark of civilization. Old men trying to maintain their wrinkled and decrepit need to control women's reproductive rights are recused.

## District #10

### Democrats

**ALEXANDRA "LEXY" DOHERTY – EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT, [HTTPS://LEXYDOHERTY.COM](https://lexydoherly.com)**

- **Inflation:** "Lexy will work with every level of the federal, state, and local governments of District 10 to ensure that the people who live here - not just the corporations who profit here- benefit from significant national investment." Furthermore, "Lexy believes in pursuing policies that really help uplift rural areas: prioritizing education, job training, small business development, fair wages, and attracting private and public investment in innovative energy solutions."
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** "A person's medical history and the decisions they make about their own healthcare should be entirely their own business. If elected, Lexy will fight to codify the right to privacy that had been upheld for so long under Roe v. Wade."

**JESSICA FORE – REALTOR AND MUSICIAN, [HTTPS://JESSICAFOREGA.COM](https://jessicaforega.com)**

- **Inflation:** We need to create a multi-tier top marginal tax rate in which lower tax rates are explicitly tied to the creation of domestic living wage jobs. If you're paying poverty wages, shipping jobs overseas, and expecting your workers to obtain taxpayer funded public assistance to make ends meet, you're going to pay higher taxes. If corporations want the lowest available tax rate, then they must prove they deserve it Any adult working full-time should not have to rely on government assistance. The wealth gap continues to widen as corporations are given tax benefits while being allowed to underpay their employees. Although there is a current misconception that Americans do not want to work anymore, the truth is, Americans do not want to be exploited anymore. Georgians deserve to be paid what they are worth. Minimum wages for working adults need to be indexed to local housing costs so that working people can keep a roof over their heads without relying on taxpayers. People have been misguided to believe the minimum wage is for "high school workers" or for adults who lack certain skills; this is not true. According to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who signed the federal minimum wage into law, the purpose was to ensure adults working full-time in the wealthiest nation were not living in poverty: "It seems to me to be equally plain that no business which depends for existence on paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in this country. By 'business' I mean the whole of commerce as well as the whole of industry; by workers I mean all workers, the white-collar class as well as the men in overalls; and by living wages, I mean more than a bare subsistence level-I mean the wages of decent living."
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Progressive policies like sex education and free contraceptives accomplish a far lower abortion rate than alleged pro-life policies that prosecute women. The U.S. maternal mortality rate, which is roughly double that of most other wealthy nations, drops when reproductive healthcare providers and their patients are free to make medical decisions without government interference. The procedure is an incredibly difficult and emotional medical decision to be made by a woman and her doctor. The government should be limited in their ability to interfere in our healthcare decisions. Based on elective abortion numbers and maternal mortality rates, the most pro-life and small-government vote anyone can cast on this issue is for a Democrat.

## District #11

### Republicans

**BARRY LOUDERMILK\* – BUSINESSMAN, [HTTPS://WWW.STANDWITHBARRY.COM](https://www.standwithbarry.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** Barry has consistently advocated that, before we can tackle the larger issue of illegal immigration, we first have to secure America's borders and ports of entry. When serving on the House Homeland Security Committee, Barry traveled to our southern border to see first-hand how drug cartels, and human traffickers are exploiting our porous and open borders. Our vast borders are a hotbed of criminal activity and pose a real threat to our national security. That's why Barry helped write legislation that will provide for more physical barriers along our borders, and increase the number of border patrol agents – to stop criminal activities and stop illegal crossing. However, to effectively control illegal immigration, we must also end counterproductive policies such as catch and release which impairs our law enforcement from effectively stopping and deporting those who enter our nation illegally. Once we have secured our border, we must reform our immigration laws by ending chain migration, stopping visa lotteries, and ensure those who are here on temporary visas return to their home countries when their visas expire.
- **Abortion Rights:** President John Quincy Adams stated, "The Declaration of Independence will tell you that the authors held for self-evident truth that the right to life is the first of the unalienable rights..." Life is the ultimate right endowed by God, and it is the responsibility of a government to protect that right. Barry believes, and science has proven, that life begins in the mother's womb and it is our responsibility to protect the life of our most vulnerable, our unborn

children. That's why Barry has consistently fought to protect all innocent life – through legislation, and in voting to ban taxpayer dollars from being used for abortions

**LORI MARIE PESTA – RETIRED BANKING EXECUTIVE, no contact information**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**MIKE PONS – RETIRED, [HTTPS://WWW.MIKEPONS.ORG](https://www.mikepons.org)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**Democrats**

**ANTONIO DAZA – BUSINESS OWNER, [HTTPS://VOTEDAZA.COM](https://votedaza.com)**

- **Inflation:** Income inequality in America is a major problem. I stand in solidarity with working-class Americans, and I will support legislation that advocates for raising taxes on corporations and the very wealthy to fund social service programs. It is long past time to demand that the rich pay their fair share. I support Sen. Bernie Sanders's plan for an annual tax on the extreme wealth of the top 0.1% of US households, a tax that would only affect those with a net worth of over \$32 million. Addressing income inequality also means protecting the working class. While inflation and the cost of living have increased significantly over the past several decades, workers' wages have remained stagnant. We must secure a minimum wage of at least \$15 tied to inflation. I will advocate for protecting workers at all levels, especially our front-line heroes who are most often low-wage workers. I will be an ally in Congress to labor unions and will advocate for workers' rights.
- **Immigration:** As an immigrant and a refugee from political violence and dictatorship, I have a unique appreciation for American institutions, and I believe in their power to serve the people. I know, however, that a large portion of Americans feel disaffected and exhausted by the way that the systems are currently functioning. In order for our democracy to thrive, we need to gain back our trust in the institutions that represent us, and our government must protect and reflect the democratic values we have agreed upon since the beginning of our nation. Being an elected official is a great responsibility, and I believe that there should be strong accountability for any elected officials who incite violence - including those responsible for the storming of the United States Capitol in early 2021., which is why I support the investigations by the January 6th House Subcommittee. I am a strong advocate for freedom of religion, and I believe that the separation of church and state is the most effective protector of those freedoms. We need term limits and many other reforms necessary to ensure that our elected officials are accountable to the public that they serve.
- **Abortion Rights:** Abortion Rights Access to safe abortions is healthcare. I am proud to be a pro-choice candidate. Reproductive rights are under attack in the U.S., and without the protection of Roe v. Wade, access to safe abortion is under threat. We cannot allow access to medical care to be stripped away state by state, which is why I will vote to create a federal law protecting abortion care for every person who needs it. In the most vulnerable moments of someone's life, it is important we guarantee them respect and dignity. I will work to prevent the harassment and intimidation of patients, providers, and staff at reproductive health care facilities. I believe that private and public insurance must cover abortion and all forms of birth control. I also believe that we must work to reduce the economic hardships that often come with having a child, through resources like affordable healthcare and paid family leave.

**KATY "KATE" L STAMPER – LAWYER, [HTTPS://KATYLSTAMPER.COM](https://katylstamper.com)**

- **Inflation:** Inflation must be reduced. Kate believes our economy exists to serve Americans; Americans do not exist to serve an economy or the 1%.
- **Immigration:** Protect Our Border to prevent human trafficking, stop terrorism, and keep out tuberculosis and measles. Without a border, we cease to be a nation.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**District #12**

**Democrats**

**DANIEL "DJ" JACKSON – RETIRED MILITARY, [WWW.DJFORCONGRESS.COM](http://www.djforcongress.com)**

- **Inflation:** Issue: Wage growth is not matched with the cost of living  
Solutions: People should be paid a livable wage. We should institute a minimum wage nationwide. CEO wage gaps should not continue to grow at exponential rates; profits should be shared with workers. The government should step in and raise wages, make services and goods affordable for low-wage earners, and expand access to the WIC program.  
Teach technical skills in high schools and affordable classes at technical colleges.  
Use local organizations as instructors and resources for technical training. Georgia is home to many army and cyber organizations with individuals who can offer training throughout the 12th Congressional district.
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Women should have the choice to make health care decisions about their own bodies with their doctor. If abortions are banned, then the government needs to provide wrap-around services to ensure the health and safety of the mother and her children.

**ELIZABETH "LIZ" JOHNSON – RETIRED INSURANCE PROFESSIONAL, [HTTPS://LIZJOHNSONFORUS.COM](https://lizjohnsonforus.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**District #13**

**Republicans**

**JOHSIE CRUZ FLETCHER – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, no contact information**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** Advocating for the enforcement of immigration laws, prioritize our national sovereignty by taking all the border security measures. This is a real threat to our national security.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**JONATHAN CHAVEZ – BUSINESS OWNER, no contact information**

- **Inflation:** Jonathan Chavez is truly passionate about this issue, as it is one that impacts so many people all over the world. What we are seeing is a massive increase in gas prices, inflation that we have not seen in over 40 years and is still rising. Americans hold this issue close to their heart, working day in and day out only to find that our current leaders have led us down a path to economic destruction. Every policy that has been implemented in the last year has made our nation worse. Jonathan Chavez aims to maintain balance within the political system, and will keep pushing until the correct balance is reached.
- **Immigration:** This particular issue needs to be addressed, and heavily discussed among politicians, lobbyists, and congressmen alike. We have Democrats that have opened up our borders to an unsafe environment. This is also leading to the economic decline that many Americans and future Americans who are going through the legal process for citizenship are paying the price for. Jonathan Chavez is pushing for change, and is doing everything they can to see a brighter future.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

## Democrats

**BRIAN K. JOHNSON – ATTORNEY, [HTTPS://BRIANKJFORCONGRESS.COM](https://briankjforcongress.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**DAVID SCOTT\* – US CONGRESSMAN, [HTTPS://VOTEDAVIDSCOTT.COM](https://votedavidscott.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** I understand how important and emotional the issue of border security and undocumented immigration is to Georgians and Americans across our nation. I believe our first priority is to secure our borders and prevent immigrants from entering this country without documentation. However, this also means drastically improving our asylum procedures to allow immigrants escaping persecution, crime and violence safe entry into the U.S. Securing our borders means requiring the increased deployment and use of security technology, be it sensor and camera surveillance, or increased numbers of border patrol agents. I also believe the Department of Homeland Security should have adequate funds to ensure border security while improving training for Immigration Customs and Enforcement and Customs and Border Patrol Agents. I support collaborating with border state governments to deploy the National Guard and other military personnel to exercise appropriate force in order to secure our borders. And while I support efforts to deport immigrants who have committed deliberate criminal acts, I also favor increasing penalties for employers who knowingly and willingly recruit and hire undocumented workers. However, we must have clearly defined rules that are easy to follow. I do support extending the temporary work visa program as certain industries such as agriculture, landscaping, restaurants, and construction depend on immigrant labor and therefore must retain access to this workforce. Moreover, we must also create a policy to address the millions of people who are already here illegally, as simply deporting over twelve million people is not a practical solution.
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**KAREN RENE – PROGRAM DIRECTOR, [WWW.KARENRENE.COM](http://www.karenrene.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** information not available

**MARCUS FLOWERS – POLITICIAN, [HTTPS://MARCUSFORGEORGIA.COM](https://marcusforgeorgia.com)**

- **Inflation:** He cares deeply about... the economy...
- **Immigration:** He cares deeply about... immigration reform...
- **Abortion Rights:** He is pro-choice because women deserve just as much freedom over their bodies as he does. As a Congressman, he will work to codify Roe and believes Congress has a Constitutional duty to be a check on the Supreme Court. He cares deeply about a woman's right to choose...

**MARK BAKER – RETIRED, [HTTPS://BAKER4CONGRESS.COM](https://baker4congress.com)**

- **Inflation:** Everyone wants to live, work and play in a nice community. The key to that happening is creating the conditions where robust economic growth can take place locally. While on council, I passed legislation to create the Development Authority for the City of South Fulton, in order to bring revitalization projects to the city and keep development dollars in the community. Small businesses drive 44% of the US economy. This number should be substantially higher, but structural barriers still stand in the way. In Congress, I'll focusing on aiding, assisting, counseling and protecting small businesses on a national level through smart legislation, and will work to direct development dollars back to communities in our district.
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Our daughters and granddaughters are now in danger because our elected officials were asleep at the wheel. An out-of-control Supreme Court and radical anti-abortion laws passed by Republicans have destroyed normal standards of medical care expected by women during pregnancy. The result is that a wanted pregnancy can quickly turn into a life-threatening nightmare. When mothers-to-be experience complications, in some cases doctors must now wait until the mother's life is in immediate danger before attempting what was previously safe and routine medical care. No doctor should have to play roulette with a patient's life because of the fear of legal consequences. That legal fear is adding to the problem of a shortage of OB-GYNs. Over half of Georgia counties don't have a single OB-GYN in residence and the problem is getting worse. This is unacceptable. Our families deserve better. I will fight to codify reproductive rights into law.

**RASHID MALIK – MANAGER OF AMERICA A CARE LLC, [WWW.MALIK4CONGRESS.COM](http://www.malik4congress.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** We need to expand our economy from Canada to Chile and ferry into the Caribbean. Once a person is inside the country, that person should be treated equally under the law. Why someone has to leave to get fair representation by law and lawyers.
- **Abortion Rights:** Pro-choice

**ULOMA KAMA – PUBLIC HEALTH PHYSICIAN AND TEACHER, [WWW.ELECTULOMAFORUSCONGRESS.COM](http://www.electulomaforuscongress.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Plans to prioritize healthcare access expansion, including Medicaid, reproductive rights protection, and addressing disparities for women and children, leveraging over a decade of experience in public health and healthcare policy advocacy.

## District #14

### Democrats

**CLARENCE BLALOCK – CONSULTANT, [HTTPS://CLARENCEFORGA.COM](https://clarenceforga.com)**

- **Inflation:** information not available
- **Immigration:** information not available
- **Abortion Rights:** Abortion rights are healthcare. We shouldn't have ignorant politicians putting barriers between women and their doctors. I support a federal law that would overturn state mandates on abortion like we have in Georgia.

**DERIC HOUSTON – SALES OPERATIONS MANAGER, [HTTPS://DEREIC4GA.COM](https://dereic4ga.com)**

- **Inflation:** The Biden economy may show signs of growth, but for those at the bottom, the reality is starkly different. Rising costs at the register overshadow any supposed progress. It's a tale of inflated profits and unchecked greed among the elite, highlighting a 'free market' that caters to the wealthy while burdening the poor. It's time for equity, not exploitation, to define our economic landscape.
- **Immigration:** Simply advocating for "closing the border" won't effectively address the immigration challenges we face, especially since the border isn't wide open as some may perceive. Our border security and processing teams are under-resourced and ill-equipped to handle the influx of migrants seeking entry. To address this issue, we must bolster our presence at the border to guide migrants toward legal crossing points. Utilizing technology such as infrared cameras on drones can help pinpoint new crossing areas, improving our ability to manage migration flows more effectively. Furthermore, our current immigration system lacks a clear pathway to citizenship for many aspiring immigrants. While statistics suggest that the success rate for obtaining a green card is disappointingly low, it underscores the urgent need for comprehensive immigration reform to create fairer and more accessible pathways to legal status for those who seek it.
- **Abortion Rights:** Reproductive care must be available to all women, regardless of age, race or financial circumstances. Abortion is a crucial health matter, and it's a decision that belongs to a woman, her doctor, and, optionally, her partner.

**JOSEPH LEIGH – GENERAL MANAGER, [WWW.JOSEPHLEIGH.COM](http://WWW.JOSEPHLEIGH.COM)**

- **Inflation:** The goal of our economic policy should be simple: every hardworking American deserves the opportunity for a decent and stable life. Yet, the reality is that many find themselves in a challenging cycle of living paycheck to paycheck, a situation exacerbated by rising inflation. Our approach to tackling this issue needs to be multifaceted and effective. Boosting Productivity and Tax Reforms: A key step is to enhance the nation’s productivity. The current federal tax burden, along with state and local taxes, weighs heavily on individuals and businesses alike. Drawing inspiration from President Kennedy’s successful tax cuts and reforms, which led to increased personal incomes, higher consumption, and boosted tax revenues, I believe a similar approach can yield significant benefits today. Sensible tax reforms can stimulate economic growth while ensuring fairness. Proposed Measures for Economic Growth: To further support our economy and alleviate the burden on families and small businesses, I advocate for the following measures: •Raising the Minimum Wage: Increasing the minimum wage to \$15 is a step towards ensuring a living wage for all workers, helping to reduce poverty and stimulate consumer spending. •Expanding Access to Free Childcare: By providing free childcare, we can alleviate a significant financial burden on working families, enabling more parents, especially mothers, to participate in the workforce. •Easing Regulations for Small Businesses: Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Cutting excessive red tape will encourage entrepreneurship, job creation, and economic resilience. •Securing Our Borders: Effective border management is crucial for economic stability. It impacts various sectors, from labor markets to national security. By implementing these measures, we can create an economic environment where growth, stability, and opportunity are accessible to all Americans.
- **Immigration:** We have a security and humanitarian crisis on our southern border. For too long, the issue has been mired in political blame games in Washington, with little substantial action being taken. It’s important to recognize that while the administration can and should do more, real change depends on the laws enacted by Congress. It’s time for us to move beyond partisan divides and address this critical issue together starting with the following: •Strengthening Border Security: We must take decisive steps to prevent illegal immigration, ensuring that our border is secure and managed effectively. This involves not just physical measures but also technological and personnel resources to monitor and protect the border effectively. •Enhancing Lawful Immigration: Our focus should also be on creating more avenues for lawful immigration. This means reforming our immigration system to make it more accessible, fair, and efficient, allowing those who wish to contribute positively to our society to do so legally and with dignity. •Disrupting Illegal Cartel Activities: The control exerted by cartels on our southern border poses a significant threat. We need to dismantle their influence and operations through coordinated efforts, involving both border security and international cooperation, to restore safety and order. Together, these steps form a comprehensive approach to reforming our immigration system, enhancing border security, and upholding our values as a nation of laws and as a land of opportunity.
- **Abortion Rights:** While I differ from many in the Democratic party on this issue, I believe abortion is primarily a moral issue and the federal government cannot and should not attempt to solve moral issues. Moral questions should primarily be addressed by the people themselves, rather than by the federal government. Here is what I believe: •Upholding the 10th Amendment: In line with the 10th Amendment, which reserves powers not specifically delegated to the federal government to the states or the people, I believe that the decision on how to regulate abortion should rest with the states and the people within them. This approach recognizes the diverse perspectives and values across our nation and allows for decisions that reflect the unique contexts of each state. •State and Individual Autonomy: A one-size-fits-all national policy on such a complex issue as abortion is unlikely to adequately address the varied beliefs and circumstances across our country. Instead, empowering states and individuals to make their own informed decisions ensures a more nuanced and respectful handling of this sensitive issue. It allows for a range of policies that can be more closely aligned with the values and needs of different communities. •The health and life of the mother should be protected and no government should interfere with this. Our approach to abortion should be one that respects the moral considerations involved, adheres to the constitutional framework of our nation, and recognizes the importance of state and individual autonomy in addressing such deeply personal matters.

**SHAWN GENERAL HARRIS – RETIRED MILITARY, [HTTPS://SHAWNFORGEORGIA.COM](https://SHAWNFORGEORGIA.COM)**

- **Inflation:** Support anti-price-gouging legislation to keep profitable companies from arbitrarily raising prices on captive customers.
- **Immigration:** Congress should do its job and fix our broken immigration laws to make sure our border is fully protected and we have a workable legal immigration system that serves the needs of American farmers, workers and businesses. Congress should expand asylum processing and tighten standards to stop the catch-and-release process that allows migrants into our country with no oversight or vetting.
- **Abortion Rights:** When it comes to abortion, I support restoring the protections and restrictions we had under Roe v Wade. Politicians need to respect Americans’ freedom to make our own decisions about our own families.

**Georgia State Legislature (North Georgia region only)**

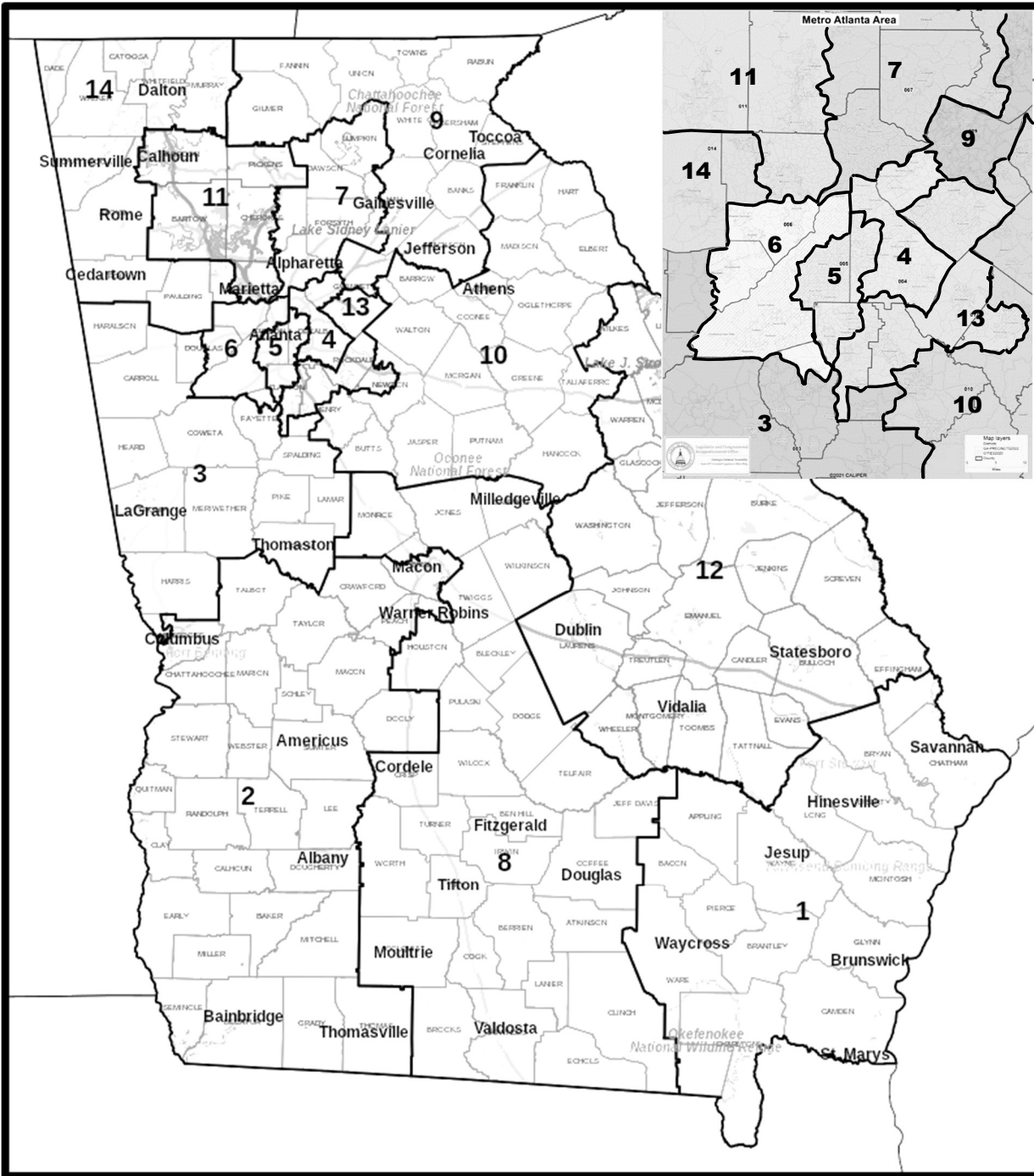
Because of space limitations, only *contested* primaries are included.

**Georgia State House**

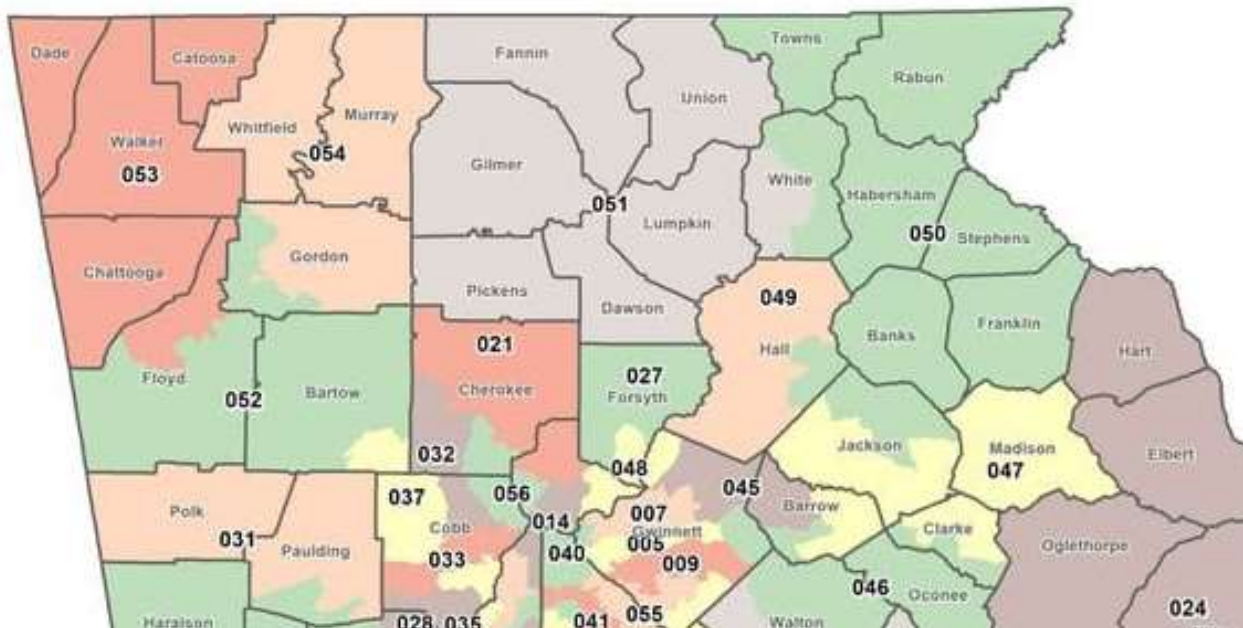
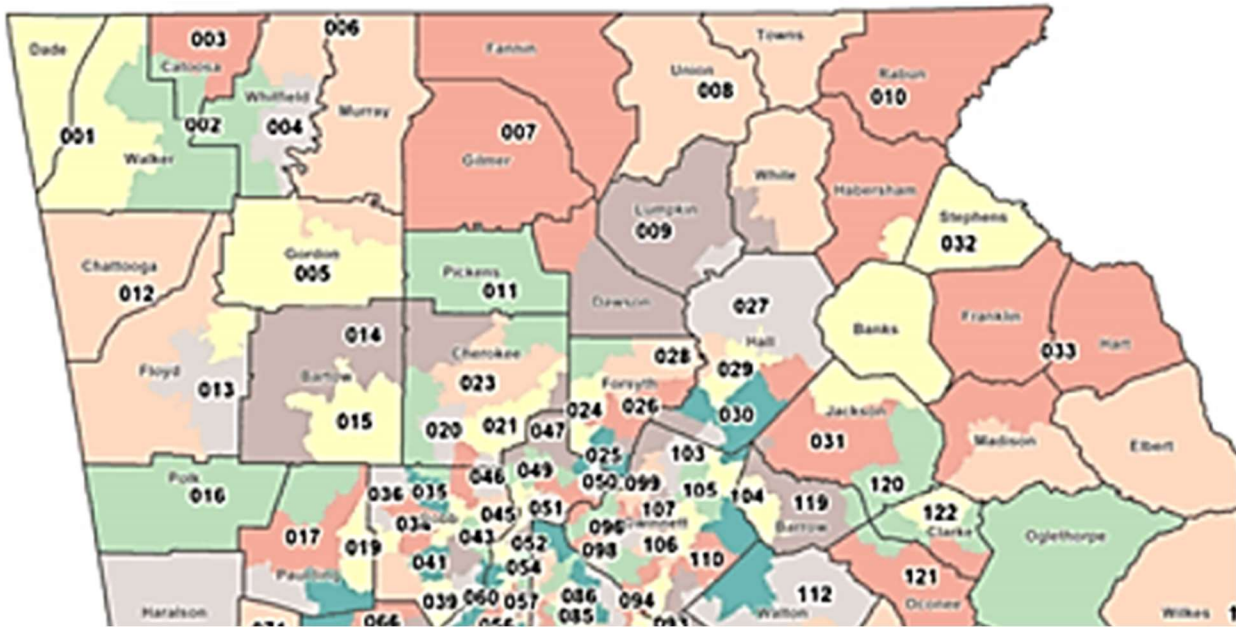
8 <sup>th</sup> District -- Republican Stan Gunther* Dick Mills	30 <sup>th</sup> District – Republican Norine Cantor Derrick McCollum* -- <a href="http://DERRICKMCCOLLUM.COM">DERRICKMCCOLLUM.COM</a>
21 <sup>st</sup> District – Republican Greg Kirkpatrick -- <a href="http://WWW.KIRKPATRICKFORGA.COM">WWW.KIRKPATRICKFORGA.COM</a> Brad Thomas*	47 <sup>th</sup> District – Democratic Anthia Carter -- <a href="http://ANTHIACARTER.COM">ANTHIACARTER.COM</a> Debra Chigley-- <a href="http://DEBRAFORGEORGIA.COM">DEBRAFORGEORGIA.COM</a>
22 <sup>nd</sup> District – Republican Paul Kettering Jordan Ridley*	47 <sup>th</sup> District – Republican Phoebe Eckhardt Jan Jones*
25 <sup>th</sup> District – Republican Todd Jones* Cary Lucas	<b>Advance voting ends on 5/17</b>

**Georgia State Senate**

21 <sup>st</sup> District – Democratic Lillia Michelle Lionel -- <a href="mailto:lillialionel@gmail.com">lillialionel@gmail.com</a> Tracey Verhoeven -- <a href="mailto:traceyfornga@gmail.com">traceyfornga@gmail.com</a>	53 <sup>rd</sup> District – Republican Angela Pence -- <a href="http://ANGELAPENCE.COM">ANGELAPENCE.COM</a> Colton Moore -- <a href="http://COLTONMOORE.COM">COLTONMOORE.COM</a>
49 <sup>th</sup> District – Republican Drew Echols Josh Clark	<b>Primary day is Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> Remember to VOTE!</b>



Source: <https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/24180194-georgia-congressional-gop-2023-redistricting-plan/?embed=1>



# THE POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

was founded in February 1994 by students majoring in Political Science for the purpose of:

- providing an organized forum for undergraduate students majoring in political science at North Georgia College and State University to discuss their mutual interests and concerns;
- providing an official structure to represent and advocate the interests of said students; and
- conducting activities and sponsor programs which promote the spirit of scholarship in political science and which provide opportunities for social activity.

Membership in the PSSA is open to majors and non-majors alike. Any student interested in promoting political awareness and activity is welcome to join.

For information, contact  
Prof. Carl Cavalli in the POLS/INTL Department ([carl.cavalli@ung.edu](mailto:carl.cavalli@ung.edu))

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**Follow Us On Instagram: @ungpssa**

**Join us on UNG Connect: [https://connect.ung.edu/pssa/club\\_signup](https://connect.ung.edu/pssa/club_signup)**

Supporting organization:

## **THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT**

For Civic Engagement is a national, multi-campus initiative that seeks to foster informed civic engagement in the United States. The project seeks to create a greater intellectual understanding and commitment to participate in the civic life of the United States.

Focused on undergraduates at public colleges and universities, the American Democracy Project has created a collaborative network of 166 public colleges and universities, representing more than 1.5 million students that are member institutions of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). The three-year project, sponsored by AASCU in collaboration with The New York Times, will provide opportunities for participating campuses to engage in activities and projects designed to increase the number of undergraduate students are committed to meaningful civic actions.

For information, see: <https://ung.edu/american-democracy-project/index.php>

**Advance voting ends on 5/17**

**Primary day is Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>  
Remember to VOTE!**